

WILLIAM Y. STRONG.

[To accompany Bill H. R. No. 578.]

APRIL 6, 1860.

Mr. TRIMBLE, from the Committee on Public Lands, made the following

REPORT.

The Committee on Public Lands, to whom was referred the petition of William Y. Strong, make the following report:

It appears from the petition and accompanying papers that William Y. Strong entered, at the United States land office at Chillicothe, Ohio, on the 27th of June, 1845, the southeast one-fourth of northwest one-fourth of section 24, township 13, range 1 east, containing 40 acres, at \$1 25 per acre, for which a patent was issued July 12, 1855.

It further appears that prior to May, 1836, the State of Ohio sold the same land to another party, and by her governor made conveyance of the same under act of Congress, May 24, 1828, granting lands to the State for canal purposes. No transfer had been made of this tract of land from the general government to the State of Ohio on the books of the land office at Chillicothe, and consequently no evidence existed in the land office at Washington that the State had approved the land for canal purposes.

The petitioner, therefore, made his entry and paid his money in good faith, and as the Commissioner of the General Land Office decided that the United States was the owner of said land and the patent to petitioner conveyed the title to the same, he was compelled to resort to the courts of Ohio for possession. After several years' litigation, the supreme court of the State decided, in March last, that the holder under the State had a good and valid title.

In consideration of the fact that the petitioner has spent both time and money in testing the title of the government to this land, the committee recommend for his relief the accompanying bill.

